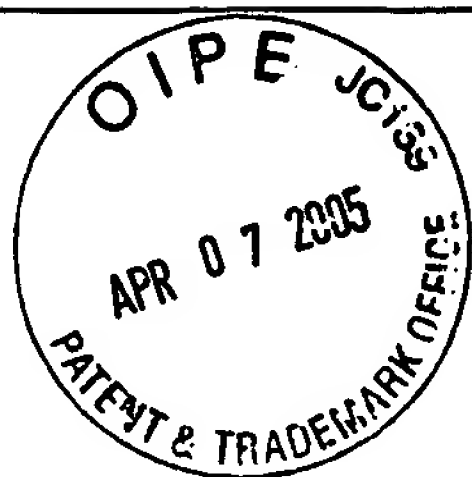


ARNOLD & PORTER LLP



April 7, 2005

Thomas E. Holsten
Thomas_Holsten@aporter.com

202.942.5085
202.942.5999 Fax

555 Twelfth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20004-1206

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Art Unit: 1631
Examiner: Marjorie A. Moran
Conf. No.: 8785

Re: U.S. Patent Application No. 09/815,264 filed March 23, 2001
Inventors: Andrey A. BOUKHAROV *et al.*
Title: Genomic Plant Sequences and Uses Thereof
Atty. Dkt: 16517.006

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) are the following documents:

1. Preliminary Amendment and Response to Restriction Requirement; and
2. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier.

In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned. Applicants do not believe any additional fees are due in conjunction with this filing. However, if any fees are required in the present application, including any fees for extensions of time, then the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Arnold & Porter LLP Deposit Account No. 50-2387, referencing docket number 16517.006.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas E. Holsten (Reg. No. 46,098)
David R. Marsh (Reg. No. 41,408)

Enclosures